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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,511	07/23/2002	David M. Hoffman	15-CT-6001	6623

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EXAMINER


CHURCH, CRAIG E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2882

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/064,511	Applicant(s) HOFFMAN, DAVID M.	
	Examiner Craig E. Church	Art Unit 2882	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Figure 4 is approved.

Claims 1-13 and 16-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The phrase “such that the x-ray source advances one detector cell per revolution” in claims 1 and 16 is not meaningful since neither the source nor the means for moving it rotationally and axially are defined in 1, and claim 16 fails to recite means for moving the source rotationally and axially.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

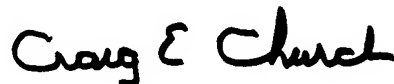
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamazaki et al (5570403). Yamazaki teaches a dual energy CT scanner comprising a rotating gantry, x-ray tube 10 with means to vary the spectral content of the x-ray beam in the Z direction (figure 16 and lines 19-22 of column 9), plural detector rows 1-2, data acquisition means 50, reconstruction processor 60 and display means 70 for showing the spectrally discriminated and combined images. In the system of figures 5 and 6 (lines 49 of column 6 to line 13 of column 7) energy discrimination is provided by scintillators 31 and 32 which have

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the same absorption characteristics but are of different thicknesses. Lines 14-18 of column 7 explain that the scintillators may be the same thickness, and filters are employed for spectral selection. Lines 22-67 of column 7 discuss use of wedge filters (sloped) between the source and the patient. Figure 15A shows that the filter for detector 2 is air. Lines 29-36 of column 8 reveal that the Kv applied to the x-ray tube may be varied as its focal spot is shifted to favor each detector row. Lines 43-53 of column 9 suggest that more than three detector rows may be used for discriminating more than three subspectra (which means that the first and third detector rows would have different spectral responses as per claims 24-28). Figures 4A and 12A-12C teach that Yamazaki's source pitch is one detector.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Church at telephone number (571) 272-2488.



Craig E. Church
Senior Examiner
Art Unit 2882